

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application as amended.

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application.

Claims 9-23 are allowed.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-8 are said to be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The specification has been amended.

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended.

Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities. Specifically, the Examiner states "Page 8, line 5; "lowest order flip-flop 110" should be highest order flip-flop 110-- See page 7, lines 13-15."

The specification has been amended. Applicant submits that the objection to the disclosure has been overcome in view of the amendment.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically the Examiner states that

As per independent claim 1, the terms "between the outputs of the flip-flops at the current time step t with the output of the flip-flop of the flip flops at the time step t-n" (lines 7-8 seem to be inconsistent. Similarly noted independent claim 8, lines 7-8, 9-10 & 14-15. Clarification is requested.

(7/6/2004 Office Action, p. 2).

Claims 1 and 8 have been amended such that the term “outputs” is consistently used in the claims. Applicant submits that the rejections to claims 1-8 have been overcome in view of the amendment to claims 1 and 8.

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant submits that the recorded references do not teach or suggest: (1) the “determining” and “coupling” procedures as recited in independent claim 1, (2) the plurality of “determining” and “coupling” procedures as recited in independent claim 8, or (3) the detailed physical structures as recited in independent claim 9.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, it is respectfully submitted that the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-23, as amended, should be found to be in condition for allowance.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1624.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 5, 2004



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